

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims in order to reduce the initial filing fee by deleting the multiple dependent claims from the application. Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment at any time during the prosecution of this application or any further application claiming benefit of this application.

In addition, an Abstract of the Disclosure has been added to the application.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the Search Report which issued on International Application No. PCT/SE00/00715, of which the present application is the U.S. national phase. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is Applicants' understanding that, under the procedures of the PCT, copies of the cited publications will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office by the International Bureau. However, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if additional copies are necessary or would facilitate examination of the present application.

Otherwise, the Examiner is respectfully requested to return an initialed and dated copy of the attached Form PTO-1449 to confirm that all publications listed thereon have been considered and made officially of record in the file of this application.

Applicants understand that, under the procedures of the PCT, a copy of the priority document (SE 9901361-7, filed 16 April 1999) will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office pursuant to Rule 17 of the PCT Regulations. It is therefore respectfully requested that the first Official Action in the present application contain an indication that the appropriate priority document is in the file of this application.

09/926340

U.S. National Phase of PCT/SE00/00715

In view of the above amendments, an early action on the application is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3 and 6-8 with the following amended claims.

3(Amended). Method according to claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that the particle compound is a synthetic silicate compound.

6(Amended). Fluff pulp according to claim 4 [or 5], characterized in that the particle compound is a synthetic silicate compound.

7(Amended). Absorption core for absorption products, characterized in that it comprises a dry defibered fluff pulp according to [anyone of claims 4-6] claim 4 and optionally a superabsorbent.

8(Amended). Absorption product, characterized in that it comprises a dry defibered fluff pulp according to [anyone of claims 4-6] claim 4 and/or a absorption core [according to claim 7].

Abstract

A method of making a dry defibered fluff pulp suitable for absorption products is described. In the making of fluff pulp bentonite (montmorillonite), and optionally an additional inorganic particle compound, such as a synthetic silicate compound, is added to the pulp in an amount that in the final fluff pulp yields an amount of bentonite of 0.2 to 7 kg per ton fluff pulp and optionally an amount of the additional inorganic particle compound of 0.2 to 7 kg per ton fluff pulp, the total amount of retained particle additives amounting to no more than 8 kg per ton fluff pulp. Moreover, a thus made fluff pulp for absorption products, an absorption core for absorption products comprising such dry defibered fluff pulp and optionally a superabsorbent, and an absorption product comprising such a dry defibered fluff pulp and/or an absorption core are described. Moreover the use of such a dry defibered fluff pulp and/or absorption product for production of hygiene products, such as diapers, incontinent pads, sanitary napkins and wiper cloths are described.